



UNITED STATES ARMY PHYSICAL DISABILITY AGENCY



Reserve Component Disability Processing



PHYSICAL DISABILITY AGENCY MTF - PEB ALIGNMENT



PEB - Ft. Lewis, W

President,
COL Burt
253-968-
4429
PMO, LTC
Krajeski
253-968-
4426

PEB -
WRAMC

President COL
Babbitt
202-782-3094
PMO, LTC Martin
202-782-3095

PEB - Ft. SamHouston,

President, COL Reyes
210-221-9367
PMO, LTC Jacobs
210-221-9447

Asterisks Indicate MTFs

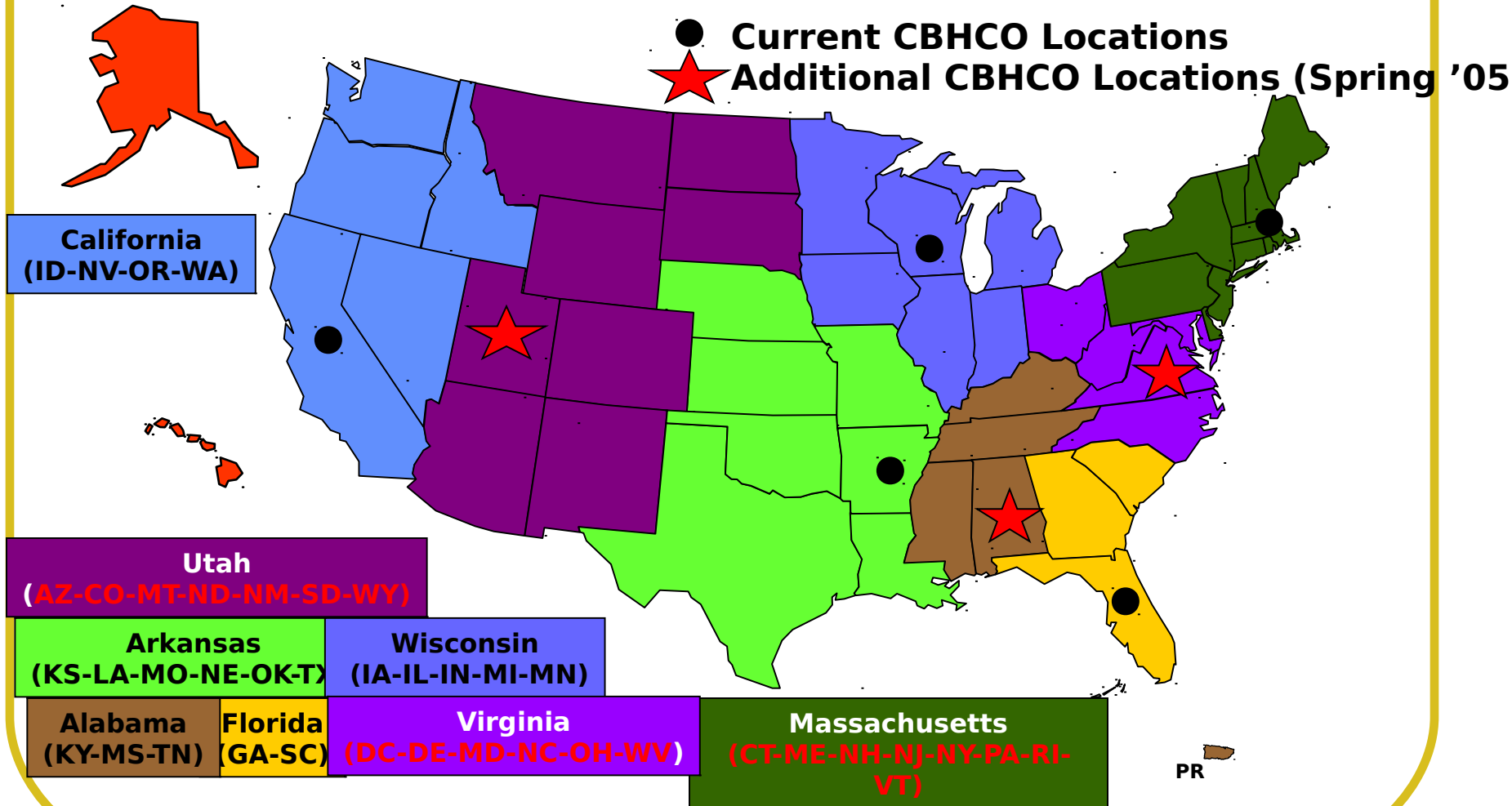
Alaska

Japan

Hawaii

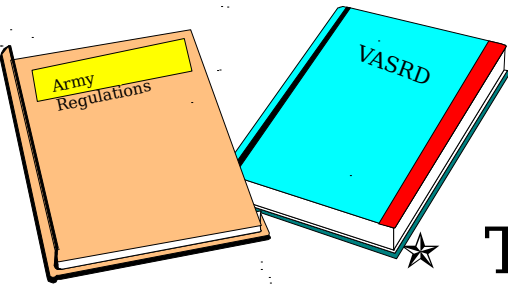
Germany

CBHCO EXPANSION





GOVERNING DIRECTIVES FOR DISABILITY PROCESSING



- ★ **Title 10 U.S.C., Chapter 61**
- ★ **Department of Defense Directive 1332.1**
- ★ **DOD Instruction 1332.38**
- ★ **DOD Instruction 1332.39**
- ★ **AR 40-501, Standards of Medical Fitness**
- ★ **AR 40-400, Patient Administration**
- ★ **AR 635-40, Phys Eval for Retention**
- Retirement or**
- Separation**
- ★ **AR 600-60, Physical Performance**
- Evaluations**
- ★ **Department of Veterans Affairs Schedule**



The Disability Evaluation System



(except for NDR cases)

MOS Medical Retention Board
(P3 Profile) AC/AGR only

Commander

Physicians

Medical Evaluation Board
(Medical Based Evaluation)

Physical Evaluation Board
(Performance Based Evaluation)

- 3 Member Board (Physicians)
- Identify impairment/illness
- Meet Retention Standards

Return to Duty
Meets Medical Retention Std except MMRB

Fit

Fit

Nonconcur

Concur

(Formal Board)

(Informal Board)

Unfit

Appeal

PDA

PDB

3 Member Board

- Paper review
- Fit/Unfit
- Rate IAW VASRD

- Agency HQ**
- Procedural Review cases
 - 1. Nonconcur
 - 2. Physicians' cases
 - 3. General Officers

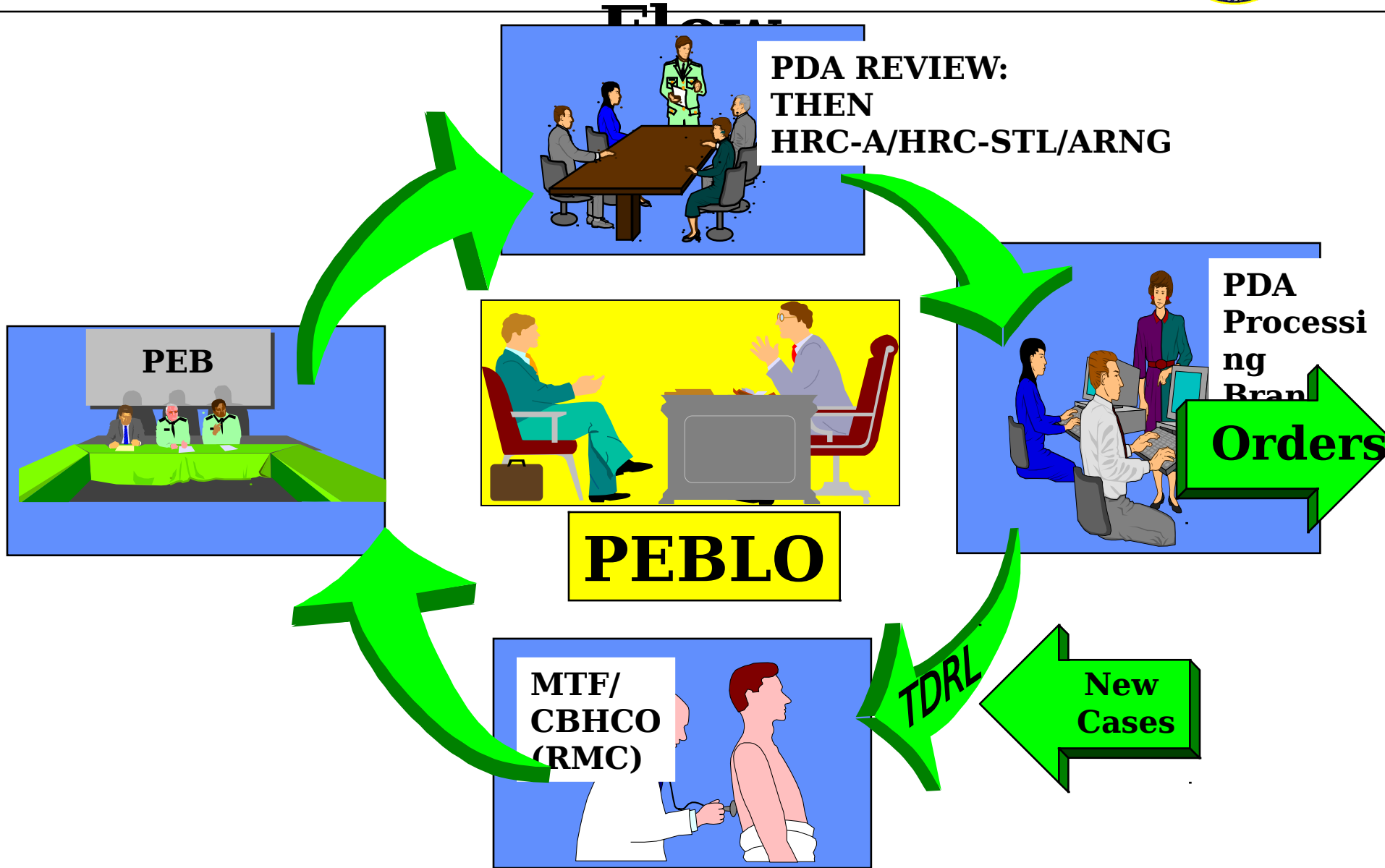
- 3 Member Board**
- Review case
 - Personal appearance
 - Legal representation

APDAB / ABCMR

Final Disposition



Reserve Component Case Flow





RC Case Due Process



- Why does it take so long?
 - Medical Appointments and Physicals
 - MMRB/MEB Results and Findings
 - Informal Board
 - Soldier's Election
 - Rebuttal
 - Addendum
 - Return to MTF
 - Line of Duty



RC Due Process (continued)



- Formal Board
 - Board Schedule
 - Travel Orders
 - Availability of Legal Counsel
 - Travel Funds
 - Soldier's Availability
- Orders and Transition Time
- Request for COAR



RC Command Responsibilities



- How can you help improve the process?
 - Get Soldier into the Medical Treatment Facility as soon as possible.
 - Document the Soldier's performance with a detailed Commander's letter.
 - Stay involved and maintain contact with PEBLO/RC LNO.



RC Specific Determinations



- Eight Year Rule
- 15 year prequalification for retirement
- 20 year prequalification for retirement
- Elections Required for SWSP and prequalification for retirement
- Release from Active Duty (REFRAD)
- Active Duty Medical Extension (ADME) and Declination



Early Qualification Reserve Retirement

- **Early Qualification for Retired Pay** (10 USC 12731b) pertains to selected RC members:
 - With physical disabilities not incurred in line of duty and no longer meet the qualifications for membership solely because of physical disability.
 - With EPTS conditions if RC soldier has less than 8 years of Active Federal Service.
- * Provide for transfer to the Retired Reserve to draw retired pay at age "60".
- ** Must have at least 15 but less than 20 qualifying years.



Early Qualification for Reserve Retired Pay &

Transfer to the Retired Reserve

- RC members with at least 15 qualifying years are eligible to apply under 10USC 12731b for Early Qualification for Reserve Retirement and transfer to the Retired Reserve in lieu of separation without benefit:
 - USAR Soldiers submit request to HRC-STL for approval.
 - ARNG Soldiers submit request to State.
 - Upon approval of either action



Transfer to the Retired Reserve



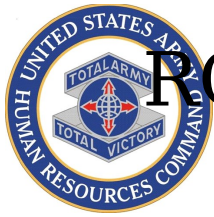
RC members who have 20 “good years” can elect retirement at age 60 rather than accept disability severance pay.

- Not automatic -- Upon notification by USAPDA of options, RC member must elect option.
- Decision is final; disability severance pay can not be repaid for the purposes of receiving retired pay.
- RC member is transferred to the Retired Reserve for medical disqualification.



Benefits for Gray Area Retirees

- All benefits except medical, unlimited commissary privileges and legal assistance until age 60.
- Website
 - <https://2xcitizen.usar.army.mil/soldierservices/retirement/grayarea.asp>



HC Documents Necessary for Processing



- Current Retirement Point Statement
 - USAR Soldier can obtain from HRC, St Louis, website, using AKO account
 - ARNG obtains from State
- Copy of 20 year letter, if issued
- DA 4187 requesting Early Reserve Retirement, if qualified
- Notification of selection for promotion, if not yet promoted



RC Processing



- If RC Soldier elects transfer to Retired Reserve, Soldier must be REFRAD back to RC unit.
- Request for REFRAD sent to HRC by PDA analyst (Copy of Mob order, election, 199).
- HRC publishes REFRAD Letter to inform TC to REFRAD Soldier back to unit.
- Unit processes Soldier's request for transfer to Retired Reserve, based on medical disqualification.
- Unit is sent a letter directing them to transfer the Soldier, per the Soldier's election.
- Unit is directed to provide PDA with a copy of the order.



Continuation on Active Reserve (COAR)

- **Reference AR 635-40, Chapter 8, Para 8-7**
- **Qualifications**
 - **unfit.**
 - **Capable of maintaining oneself in a normal military environment.**
 - **Physically capable of performing useful duty in an MOS for which qualified or trainable.**
 - **Capable of performing useful, military service without undue loss of time from duty for medical treatment.**
 - **Is Voluntary**



Continuation in Active Reserve (COAR)



continued

- If approved, will undergo another MEB/PEB upon final retirement or separation.
 - May be found fit or unfit at that time.
 - Presumption of fitness rule will not be applied.
- Approval authority
 - USAR – Commander, HRC St. Louis.
 - National Guard – Chief, National Guard Bureau.



Approved COAR

- Upon COAR approval, a request for REFRAD will be sent to HRC-A.
- HRC-A will publish REFRAD instructions to Transition Center.
- Soldier will be REFRAD back to unit to continue on active reserve status until he completes the length of the approved COAR.



TRANSPROC



- PDA analyst makes the TRANSPROC entry for Soldiers on Active Duty over 30 days
 - PDRL
 - TDRL
 - SWOB
 - SWSP



RC ORDERS



- If the Soldier is not on Active Duty, the PDA Processing Branch publishes the order.
- The order is sent to the Soldier's unit for processing.



MILPER Message 04-96

RC Disability Orders Processing



- USAPDA Analyst will assign a “not later than” date for the MOB RC Soldier to complete out-processing that will not exceed 30 days after the final determination by the USAPDA.
- Soldiers should be separated or retired as expeditiously as possible.
- Unused leave must be sold back IAW AR 635-40 and AR 600-8-10.
- Transition leave is not authorized unless the Soldier has previously sold back 60 days of leave.
- PPG allows mobilized Soldier to sell more than 60 days if necessary. Available at G1 website.



MOB/DEMOB ISSUES/CHALLENGES

- **QUALITY OF MEB (20% return rate from the PEB)**
- **ADMINISTRATIVE DATA LACKING**
LOD, RPAS, 20 YEAR LETTER, COAR Request
- **FORMAL BOARDS**
 - **RC REPRESENTATION**
- **KNOWLEDGE OF DISPOSITIONS**
 - * **8 Year rule (NDAA 2000, 5 OCT 00, Title 10, USC 1207a)**
Includes full-time RC duty (AT, ADT, ADSW, & MOB. Does not include
IDT points. RC Soldier must be on AD at time of adjudication of case.
D
 - * **EPTS prequalification for retirement with 15 good years**
- **DECENTRALIZATION OF CARE**
- **ORDERS/EXTENSIONS ADME**



Critical to RC Case Processing



- **REQUEST RPAS IMMEDIATELY**
- **Takes the longest to get**
 - **The base document**
- **RPAS OBTAINED**
 - **Is it current?**
 - **Is it complete?**
 - **Does it show more than 20 years If so, then where is the 20 Year Letter?**
- **OBTAIN ACTIVE DUTY ORDERS**
 - **Will they expire prior to completion of PDES processing**



Critical to RC Case Processing (continued)



- **PEB RENDERS A RECOMMENDED DECISION**

- **IF Separate Without Benefits (SWOB)**

- Does Soldier have 15 or more years for RC Service? Is RC Soldier on active duty at time of medical board?**

- IF YES, THEN Discuss prequalification for Retired Reserve.**

- **IF Separate with Severance Pay (SWSP)**

- Does Soldier have 20 or more years of RC Service?**

- THEN, an election is required. Soldier must request transfer to Retired Reserve or take the severance pay.**

- **If found unfit by the PEB, does RC Soldier desire to stay in the military? If yes, then verify Soldier wants requests COAR. If Soldier does not want COAR, then remove COAR request from packet.**

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Impediments to Quicker RC Case Processing



- Inaccurate and incomplete service computation data
- Soldier's election decision(s) missing from case file
- Soldiers requesting Continuation on Active Reserve (COAR)
- No follow-up verification to see if Soldier still wants COAR, even though offered TDRL or PDRL disposition. COAR request still in case file.
- Unable to determine present duty status based on case documents
- Transition Point is on a different installation from the one that submitted the disability case
- Soldiers not reporting to transition point for orders
- Cases returned to the MTFs requiring administrative and medical information



QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

